

**Council on Postsecondary Education  
Quality and Accountability Policy Group  
March 24, 2006**

## **Kentucky Conference on Developmental Education**

At its November 2005 meeting, the Quality and Accountability Policy Group reviewed the recent Council report, *Underprepared Students in Kentucky: A First Look at the 2001 Mandatory Placement Policy*. The findings show that, although Kentucky's recent high school graduates who entered college perform similarly to or better than national rates on the ACT test, there is room for improvement in preparing and serving academically underprepared students in the public postsecondary institutions.

The Kentucky Conference on Developmental Education was held March 13 and 14, 2006, in response to the report. Over 100 postsecondary administrators and developmental educators met in Lexington to review campus policies related to underprepared student success. Three leading experts in developmental education presented issues and best practices to assist campus teams in reviewing and assessing the support services for students.

Karen Sue Cain, president of the Kentucky Association for Developmental Education and director of transition and university services at Eastern Kentucky University, and Reecie Stagnolia, interim vice president of Kentucky Adult Education, will provide perspectives on the conference sessions. Jim Applegate will review the next steps to reduce the number of underprepared students and to better support and retain students who enter the institutions.